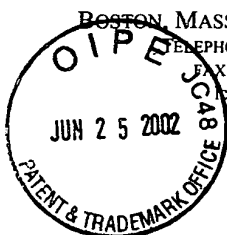


COUNSELLORS AT LAW
28 STATE STREET

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02109-1784
TELEPHONE (617) 227-7400
FAX (617) 742-4214
@lahive.com



JOHN A. LAHIVE, JR. (1928-1997)
THOMAS V. SMURZYNSKI
RALPH A. LOREN
GIULIO A. DeCONTI, JR.
ANN LAMPORT HAMMITTE
ELIZABETH A. HANLEY
AMY BAKER MANDRAGOURAS
ANTHONY A. LAURENTANO
KEVIN J. CANNING
JANE E. REMILLARD
DeANN FORAN SMITH
PETER C. LAURO
JEANNE M. DIGIORGIO
DEBRA J. MILASINCIC, Ph.D.
DAVID J. RIKKERS
DAVID R. BURNS
JOHN S. CURRAN
SEAN D. DETWEILER

0715 Rec'd 06/27/02 JUN 25 2002
CYNTHIA L. KANAK, Ph.D.
MEGAN E. WILLIAMS, Ph.D.
RICH A. NAD
MICHAEL PHILLIPPS *
LISA M. DIROCCO
HATHAWAY P. RUSSELL **
MARIA LACCOTRIPE ZACHARAKIS, Ph.D.
PETER A. DIMATTIA
VINCENT P. LOCCISANO
MERIDETH C. ARNOLD

SENIOR COUNSEL
JAMES E. COCKFIELD

OF COUNSEL
JEREMIAH LYNCH
WILLIAM A. SCOFIELD, JR.
SIBLEY P. REPPERT

PATENT AGENTS
THEODORE R. WEST
SHAYNE Y. HUFF, Ph.D.
DANIEL B. KO

TECHNICAL SPECIALISTS
CYNTHIA M. SOROOS
PETER W. DINI, Ph.D.
EUIHOON LEE
JENNIFER K. ROSENFELD
ALLAN TAMESHTIT, Ph.D.
CATHERINE E. McPHERSON
ERIC F. WAGNER, Ph.D.
SHAHID HASAN, Ph.D.
JACOB G. WEINTRAUB
JONATHAN M. SPARKS, Ph.D.
CRISTIN E. HOWLEY, Ph.D.

* Admitted in NY only
** Admitted in TX only

June 21, 2002

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: U.S. Patent Application No.: 10/070781
For: ***FILTER WITH A VALVE COMBINATION COMPONENT***
Inventors: Baumann, Dieter et al.
Filed: March 11, 2002
Our Ref. No.: HHI-041US

Dear Sir:

I enclose herewith for filing in the above-identified application the following:

1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. PTO Form 1449;
3. Copies of references cited in PTO Form 1449 (14); and
4. A Return Postcard.

No additional costs are believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, please charge any necessary fees in connection with the enclosed statement to our Deposit Order Account No. 12-0080. For this purpose, a duplicate of this sheet is attached.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on:

June 21, 2002

Date

Anthony A. Laurentano, Reg. No. 38,220

Respectfully submitted,
LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP

Anthony A. Laurentano
Registration No. 38,220
Attorney for Applicants

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re the application of: Baumann, Dieter et al.

Serial No.: 10/070781

Filed: March 11, 2002

For: ***FILTER WITH A VALVE COMBINATION
COMPONENT***

Attorney Docket No.: HHI-041US

Group Art Unit:

Examiner:

#4

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Certificate of First Class Mailing (37 CFR §1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on the date set forth below.

June 21, 2002

Date of Signature and of Mail Deposit

By:

Anthony A. Laurentano

Registration No. 38,220

Attorney for Applicants

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Applicants and their Attorney are aware of the following publications and information, listed on the attached PTO Form 1449, and in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97 hereby submit these publications for the Examiner's consideration. A copy of each cited publication is enclosed.

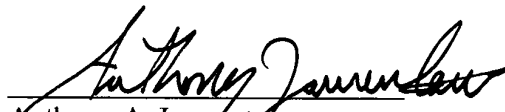
Applicants conducted a database search and were unable to procure an English abstract of German Publication No. DE 9411212.

This statement is not to be interpreted as a representation that the cited publications are material, that an exhaustive search has been conducted, or that no other relevant information exists. Nor shall the citation of any publication herein be

construed *per se* as a representation that such publication is prior art. Moreover, Applicants understand that the Examiner will make an independent evaluation of the cited publications.

No additional costs are believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, please charge any necessary fees in connection with the enclosed statement to our Deposit Order Account No. 12-0080.

Respectfully submitted,
LAHIVE & COCKFIELD, LLP

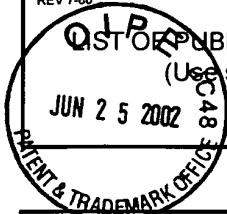

Anthony A. Laurentino
Registration No. 68,220
Attorney for Applicants

28 State Street
Boston, MA 02109
(617) 227-7400

Date: June 21, 2002

AAL/alf
Enclosures

APPLICANT FACSIMILE OF FORM PTO-1449 REV 7-80		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO HHI-041US	SERIAL NO. 10/070781
PUBLICATIONS CITED BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANT Baumann, Dieter et al.	
				FILING DATE March 11, 2002	GROUP



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	A1	DE 4131353 A1	10/92	Germany			Abstr.	
	A2	DE 4140140 A1	06/93	Germany			Abstr.	
	A3	DE 4201041 A1	07/93	Germany			Abstr.	
	A4	DE 4214500 C2	11/93	Germany			Abstr.	
	A5	DE 4243217 A1	06/94	Germany			Abstr.	
	A6	DE 4303694 A1	08/94	Germany			Abstr.	
	A7	DE 9411212 U1	10/94	Germany				
	A8	GB 2279725 A	01/95	United Kingdom				
	A9	EP 692292 B2	01/96	EPO			Abstr.	
	A10	DE 29610290 U1	10/96	Germany			Abstr.	
	A11	DE 4446263 A1, C2	06/96	Germany			Abstr.	
	A12	DE 19539918 C1	02/97	Germany			Abstr.	
	A13	DE 4240656 C2	07/93	Germany			Abstr.	
	A14	DE 29915844 U1	03/01	Germany			Abstr.	

OTHERS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Examiner			Date Considered
<p>*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</p>			